

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1538 – HB 1551

March 17, 2009

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004910): Deletes all language of the original bill and defines “adult behavioral health services for the seriously and persistently mentally ill.” Includes the support for community based providers of behavioral health services to seriously and persistently mentally ill adults who are uninsured and whose income is at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level to the priorities of the health care safety net. States the legislative intent for the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (DMHDD) to maintain funding and services of the behavioral health care safety net at levels equal to those provide on January 1, 2009. DMHDD must report to the Planning and Policy Council and the Fiscal Review Committee identifying all means the Department intends to use to increase resources available in the event that appropriations are not sufficient to continue funding these services at that level.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- DMHDD will work to provide services and funding for the behavioral health safety net at levels equal to those provided on January 1, 2009. If those levels cannot be maintained, the Department will explain why and detail the steps that will be taken to increase funding and services for the behavioral health safety net within its available resources in the required reports.
- DMHDD will not incur a significant increase in expenditures to provide the required report to the Planning and Policy Council and the Fiscal Review Committee. Any cost can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.

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CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml